Jews, While in the years 1822-1837, in Prussia, the Jews had a yearly natural increase of 13-4 per 1000 and the non-Jews of 10-3, in 1929 the Jews had a natural loss of 6-3 and the non-Jews a similar increase. But in Berlin and Vienna there was in 1929 a natural decrease also among the non-Jews.

With an annual increase of 8 per thousand, world-Jewry stands half-way between the nations of Western and Central Europe,[1] which have an increase of 1-7, and those of Eastern Europe, which have one of 20-23 per thousand. Thus, compared with Western and Central European nations, the position of world-Jewry does not appear critical, though the fact that in every single country the natural increase of the Jews is smaller than that of the non-Jews, necessarily causes a percentual decline of the Jews. In Western and Central Europe they have maintained their percentage only through immigration from Eastern Europe, but, in view of the closing of frontiers, this will no longer redress the balance in the future. From now onwards we have to expect in those countries not only a percentual, but even an absolute[3] decrease in the number of Jews.

On the basis of the German tables of mortality for 1924-1926, Silbergleit[2] has calculated that the number of women of the age of 15-45, which with the German Jews amounted in 1925 to 81,548 and with the non-Jews to 9,749,683, would

(in the natural course of events) by 1940 have declined with the Jews to 62,004, *i.e.* by 24 per cent, while with the non-Jews, it would increase by 130,956, *i.e.* by 1-3 per cent. It follows that should the fertility remain unchanged, the Jews, in 1940, would have only three-fourths of their present number of births, while the non-Jews would have a small increase on their present birth-rate* Here the curve of the future decline is clearly marked. A further decrease in mortality cannot be expected with the Jews in view of

[1] Holland, with a natural increase of 12-5 per thousand in 1931, is an exception.

[2] *Op. tit.* p. 65.